



STATE OF IOWA

TERRY E. BRANSTAD, GOVERNOR
KIM REYNOLDS, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
RYAN M. WISE, DIRECTOR

BOARD OF EDUCATION EXAMINERS
DUANE T. MAGEE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Date: September 30, 2015

To: Teachers of Students with Severe Intellectual Disabilities

Re: Compressed program for individuals requiring the Strategist II: ID
Endorsement

The Iowa Department of Education and Board of Educational Examiners have finalized the eligibility criteria for individuals in the field teaching students with severe intellectual disabilities who are not fully endorsed to provide educational programming.

A compressed program has been developed by Morningside College, University of Northern Iowa, and Upper Iowa University which includes, one three credit course consisting of methodology, characteristics, and transition for students with severe intellectual disabilities, and a one credit hour capstone field experience.

Each Institution will offer the same compressed program at the same tuition rate. The compressed program will begin Spring 2016 and will have multiple offerings through Spring 2017.

The compressed program will meet the Board of Educational Examiners minimum competency requirements for the Strategist II: ID endorsement for eligible candidates.

Eligibility Requirements

All eligibility requirements must be met in order to participate in the compressed program

- 1) Teacher who holds at least one of the special education endorsements listed below on main license (Initial, Standard or Master Educator license)
 - K-12 BD/LD
 - K-8 M/M (Strategist I)
 - K-8 BD
 - K-8 MD
 - K-8 LD
 - 5-12 M/M (Strategist I)
 - 5-12 BD
 - 5-12 MD
 - 5-12 LD
- 2) Hold a Class B license for Strategist II ID
- 3) Work in a setting requiring the Strategist II: ID

Eligible Candidates should:

- 1) enroll in coursework directly through one of the Institutes of Higher Education.
- 2) complete and pass all coursework.
- 3) obtain an official transcript from the Institution of Higher Education.
- 4) work with Board of Educational Examiners to add Strategist II: ID endorsement to main teaching license.
- 5) apply to the Iowa Department of Education for tuition reimbursement.

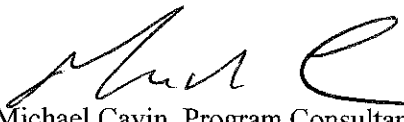
Enrollment is managed through each individual Institute of Higher Education.

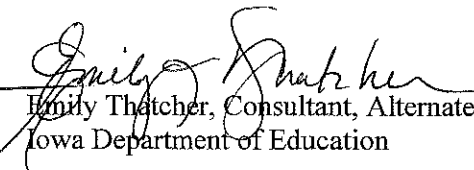
Financial support for tuition reimbursement is made possible by the Department's recent award of the State Personnel Development Grant from the Office of Special Education Programs, with a start date of October 1, 2015. As such, funding for tuition reimbursement is limited only to those teachers who will enroll in coursework beginning October 1, 2015.

Reimbursement of \$400.00 will be provided upon verification of completed coursework ending after October 1, 2015 and the Strat II: ID endorsement added to licensure prior to June 30, 2017.

Questions regarding:

- compressed program coursework should be directed to the individual Institute of Higher Education
- eligibility for participation in compressed program should be directed to Mike Cavin mike.cavin@iowa.gov
- tuition reimbursement should be directed to Emily Thatcher Emily.thatcher@iowa.gov


Michael Cavin, Program Consultant
Board of Educational Examiners


Emily Thatcher, Consultant, Alternate Assessment
Iowa Department of Education